



13/Rec'd for RCE  
C.R.  
10-21-03

PTO/SB/30 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	10/037,443
Filing Date	December 21, 2001
First Named Inventor	L. John Teuscher, et al.
Group Art Unit	3679
Examiner Name	David Bochna
Attorney Docket Number	BAL-108-RCE

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

**1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

a.  Previously submitted  
 i.  Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).  
 ii.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
 iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

b.  Enclosed  
 i.  Amendment/Reply  
 ii.  Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)  
 iii.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)  
 iv.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

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**2. Miscellaneous**

a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)

b.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 04-1403

i.  RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) \_\_\_\_\_

ii.  Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) \_\_\_\_\_

iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

b.  Check in the amount of \$ 1,160.00 enclosed

c.  Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

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**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print/Type)	Neal P. Pierotti	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	45,716
Signature	<i>Neal P. Pierotti</i>	Date	October 20, 2003

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print/Type)	Denise Bulkeley	Date	October 20, 2003
Signature	<i>Denise Bulkeley</i>	Date	October 20, 2003

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

ATTOF Y DOCKET NO.: BAL-108-RCE (17451)  
 IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: L. John Teuscher, et al. ) Group Art Unit: 3679  
 Serial No.: 10/037,443 ) Examiner: David Bochna *RCE*  
 Filed: December 21, 2001 ) Our Account No.: 04-1403  
 Confirmation No.: 4830 ) Our Customer No.: 22827  
 Title: Medical Connector )



Commissioner for Patents  
 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
 Post Office Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

This is a response/amendment/letter in the above-identified application and includes the herewith attachment of same date and subject which is incorporated hereinto by reference and the signature below is to be treated as the signature to the attachment in absence of a signature thereto.

Fee requirements (if any) have been calculated as shown below:

Claims	Highest remaining number	Present after amendment paid for	Extra	Additional Fee
Total Effective Claims	17	minus	20	= 0 X \$18 = \$ .00

Independent Claims 3 minus 3 = 0 x \$84 = \$ .00

If amendment enters proper multiple dependent claim(s) into this application for first time, add \$280.00 (per application) \$ .00

Since Official Action set an original due date of \_\_\_\_\_, PETITION is hereby made for an extension to cover the date this response is filed for which the requisite fee is enclosed (1 month \$110; 2 months \$410; 3 months \$930; 4 months \$1450) \$ .00

If Terminal Disclaimer enclosed, add Rule 20(d) Official Fee (\$110.00) \$ .00

**SUBTOTAL:** \$ .00

If "small entity" verified statement filed [ ] previously, [ ] herewith, enter one-half (½) of subtotal and subtract \$ .00

**TOTAL:** \$ .00

Other: Request for Continued Examination (RCE) \$ 770.00

**TOTAL FEE ENCLOSED:** \$ 770.00

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee specifically authorized hereafter, or any fees in addition to the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith or concerning any paper filed hereafter, and which may be required under Rules 16-18 (deficiency only) now or hereafter relative to this application and the resulting official document under Rule 20, or credit any overpayment, to our Account No. shown in the heading hereof for which purpose a duplicate copy of this sheet is attached. This statement does not authorize charge of the issue fee in this case.

ADDRESS: **DORITY & MANNING**  
 Post Office Box 1449  
 Greenville, South Carolina 29602  
 Telephone: 864-271-1592  
 Facsimile: 864-233-7342  
 ATTORNEYS AT LAW, P.A.  
 By: Neal P. Pierotti Reg. No.: 45,716 Date: October 20, 2003.  
 Signature: Neal P. Pierotti

I hereby certify that this correspondence and any referenced attachment and fee are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on October 20, 2003.

Denise Bulkeley  
 (Typed or printed name of person mailing paper or fee)

Denise Bulkeley  
 (Signature of person mailing paper or fee)

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14/ Oct 2003  
10-29-03

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: BAL-108 (17451)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of )  
L. John Teuscher et al. )  
Serial No.: 10/037,443 ) Examiner: David Bochna  
Confirmation No.: 4830 ) Art Unit: 3679  
Filed: December 21, 2001 ) Our Customer No.: 04-1403  
For: Medical Connector ) Our Account No.: 22827  
)  
)

Amendment

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The present Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed July 25, 2003 and to the Advisory Action mailed September 15, 2003 and October 14, 2003, in regards the above-captioned application. Applicants are filing a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in order to have the enclosed Amendment considered in the present case. Please enter the following Amendment:

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